

HOUSE RESOLUTION 41  
By Hensley

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Lucas Hunt of Lawrenceburg upon being named one of two State youth volunteer honorees in the 2005 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program.

WHEREAS, it is fitting for the members of this General Assembly to pause in their deliberations to salute those young citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as emerging community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lucas Hunt, an esteemed resident of Lawrenceburg and a junior at Loretto High School, has been recognized as one of the top two Tennessee student volunteers in the Prudential Spirit of Community Award's Tenth Annual Nationwide Award's Program, which recognizes young people for outstanding community service; and

WHEREAS, for his exemplary public service, Lucas was recognized as this State's most committed high school volunteer by the 2005 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, which are presented by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals to honor young volunteers across America who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to serving their communities; and

WHEREAS, Lucas Hunt won this recognition for encouraging young children to read by coordinating a reading program for elementary school classes, and presenting fantastic dramatizations of characters from favorite children's books; and

WHEREAS, upon learning that a student volunteer reading program at a local elementary school was in danger of being discontinued, Lucas volunteered to take on the project; Lucas adeptly coordinated volunteer recruitment, arranged and scheduled reading visitations at the elementary school, and made sure that the readers rehearsed adequately before their performances; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hunt has noted that “This program proved to be my inspiration for using my acting and speaking abilities to impact others’ lives”; the impact of his technique was so strong, in fact, that he began performing his book characterizations at other schools, public library programs, and at an after-school program for disadvantaged children; and

WHEREAS, as a State Honoree, Mr. Hunt will receive a \$1,000 award, an engraved silver medallion, and an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., April 30<sup>th</sup> through May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2005, for several days of national recognition events; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hunt will join the honorees from each of the other states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico for the May events in Washington, where he will vie for one of ten national awards; and

WHEREAS, an exceptionally mature young man whose actions reflect his conviction that “Children are the future, and we create the future by showing younger children what we consider to be valuable,” Lucas Hunt epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; he now takes his place among the many noble citizens who have earned this State the nickname of “The Volunteer State”; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of young people like Lucas Hunt who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Lucas Hunt, a young man of extraordinary character, spirit, and giftedness, on being recognized as one of Tennessee’s top two youth volunteers in the 2005 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, recognize his outstanding record of volunteerism, leadership, and community spirit, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success and much happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.